



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



226513

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SE-5J

SEP 18 2000

Hand-Delivered

LaSalle National Bank, Trust # 47029
135 South LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Re: Indoor Radiation Survey of 154/160 East Illinois Street

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you may be aware, U.S. EPA is investigating the disposal of radioactive material from the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company (Lindsay Light) thorium mantle manufacturing plant at 316 E. Illinois Street and 161 E. Grand in the City of Chicago. Part of this investigation includes conducting radiological surveys of certain properties in the area. U.S. EPA believes it is possible that radioactive materials from the Lindsay Light operations may have been placed onto your property and is seeking access to your property to conduct a radiological survey. Generally, asphalt and concrete effectively shield the gamma radiation from this material, but, if the asphalt and concrete are removed during construction, renovation or maintenance activities there may be a potential threat to human health and the environment.

We realize that your building may be leased and are willing to conduct the survey at a time of day when it is convenient for your tenants. We anticipate six to eight hours for the indoor radiation survey. We also plan on leaving air monitors for one week to assess the air quality inside your building. Enclosed with this letter is a form allowing U.S. EPA access to conduct an interior and exterior radiation survey at 154/160 East Illinois and leave the appropriate air monitors for one week. Also, enclosed are copies of U.S. EPA's Lindsay Light Fact Sheets which explain the detailed history of Lindsay Light and cleanup activities conducted.

In summary, from about 1905 until approximately 1932, Lindsay Light refined thorium containing ores and manufactured incandescent mantles for residential and commercial building lights at 316 E. Illinois and 161 E. Grand. The gas mantle manufacturing involved dipping gauze mantle bags into solutions containing radioactive thorium. The former manufacturing site that is bounded by Columbus, Grand, McClurg Court, and Illinois is known as the Lindsay Light II site. (It is called Lindsay Light II because the original facility and main offices were located at 161 East Grand.) Presently, Kerr-McGee Chemical L.L.C., River East L.L.C. and Grand Pier L.L.C.

are completing removal actions at the Lindsay Light II site pursuant to a U.S. EPA administrative order issued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq. ("CERCLA" or more commonly known as "Superfund"). To date, approximately 40,000 tons of thorium-impacted soils have been excavated in the Streeterville area and the cleanup work is still ongoing. There is a clean-up currently underway directly in front of your property along St. Clair.

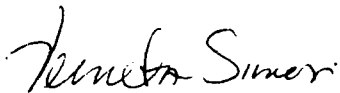
If you have conducted an environmental assessment of your building or property, provide us with a copy of that environmental assessment, whether or not it includes a radiological assessment. Such data would add to our understanding of the area. We also are interested in copies of any geotechnical boring information you may have relative to this site.

The enclosed consent for access provides U.S. EPA and its representatives access to your property to conduct radiation surveillance and sampling. Please sign this consent for access and return it to us as soon as possible. Note that this consent is for access for a radiation walkover and sampling purposes only. If access is required for other purposes, a broader access agreement will be necessary.

This request for access and information is authorized by Section 104(e) of CERCLA which provides that U.S. EPA to enter private property for the purposes of "determining the need for response or choosing or taking any response action," which includes investigatory and cleanup activities. Section 104(e) of CERCLA also provides that U.S. EPA may require any person, who may have information relevant to the identification or nature of hazardous substances or the extent of release of hazardous substances, to furnish such information or documents.

Please contact either myself at (312) 886-3601 or Fred Micke, On-Scene Coordinator at (312) 886-5123, if there is additional information we can provide to you. Please direct legal matters to Mary Fulghum, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-4683.

Sincerely,



Verneta Simon.
On-Scene Coordinator

Enclosures:

1. Fact Sheet dated April 2000
2. Fact Sheet dated May 2000
3. Fact Sheet dated June 2000
4. Consent for Access Form

CONSENT FOR ACCESS TO PROPERTY

Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Address of Property: 154/160 East Illinois Street
Chicago, Illinois

I consent to officers, employees, contractors, and authorized representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) entering and having continued access to this property to conduct an interior and exterior radiation survey, and sampling.

I realize that these actions taken by U.S. EPA are undertaken pursuant to its response and enforcement responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675 (1997).

This written permission is given by me voluntarily, on behalf of myself and all other co-owners of this property, with knowledge of my right to refuse and without threats or promises of any kind.

Date

Signature

bcc: Mary Fulghum , C-14J, w/o enclosures
Larry Jensen, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Derrick Kimbrough, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Fred Micke, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Linda Nachowicz, SE-5J, w/o enclosures
Debbie Regel, SE-5J, w/o enclosures